

# **CALFED Bay-Delta Program**

## **Preferred Alternative Implementation Strategy**

### **General**

During 1998, an Implementation Strategy will be developed for the CALFED Preferred Alternative. As described in detail below, the Implementation Strategy will include a list of the actions to be pursued, the rationale for the actions, and the steps that will be taken to implement the actions included in the Preferred Alternative over time. There will be a portion of the Implementation Strategy that will apply to the overall Preferred Alternative (Program Level Implementation Strategy), as well as separate portions relating specifically to each Program Component within the Preferred Alternative (e.g. ERPP, Water Quality, etc).

Separate from the Implementation Strategy, a process will be undertaken to define and resolve during 1998 the most pressing issues relating to *selecting* a Preferred Alternative, as opposed to *implementing* the alternative once selected. Such issues include entrainment and bromides in drinking water, as well as others. This issues resolution process is the subject of another document and is not discussed further in this document.

### **Implementation Strategy Preparation**

Although the final Implementation Strategy does not need to be completed until late 1998, an outline of the Implementation Strategy specifying what will be included in the Implementation Strategy at the Program level and for each Program Component, and a process for completing the Implementation Strategy during 1998, needs to be included in the draft EIR/EIS, and reviewed at the CALFED and BDAC meetings beginning January 20, 1998. Program Managers for the following Components should provide an annotated outline (based on the template below) for their Component, and a process for completing the Implementation Strategy during 1998, for inclusion in the draft EIR/EIS. The due date for a draft of these products is \_\_\_\_\_.

- ERPP
- Water Quality
- Levee System Integrity
- Storage and Conveyance
- Water Use Efficiency
- Water Transfers
- Watershed Management

### **Program Level Implementation Strategy**

Assurances and Finance issues, including institutional structure, will be discussed in the Program level section of the Implementation Strategy. This section is expected to include costs estimates and funding sources as well as specific assurance issues for each Program Component. The institutional structure for making adaptive management decisions for each Program Component is also expected to be included (although the basis for such decisions is discussed in each separate Component Implementation Strategy as described below). This section includes providing for appropriate levels of public and scientific input and review for the adaptive management process. In concept, this section addresses issues that are common to all Components, while the separate sections address issues that are specific to that Component.

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## Component Implementation Strategy Template

Each Component Implementation Strategy should include the following elements.

I) Component Description

Defines the component and concisely states the resource conflicts associated with the Component.

II) Component Goals, Objectives and Targets

Sets out what the Component is trying to accomplish.

III) Basic Assumptions

Premises about how the resource works that are important in understanding the list of actions and why they are expected to achieve the goals (i.e. what you have to understand for sections III and IV below to make sense). To distinguish this section from conceptual ideas in section IV below, these assumptions should be background information, while section IV items explain specific action choices (may be a judgment call as to which section to include things in).

IV) Tool and Strategies

List of specific actions and approaches that are to be used to achieve the goals (i.e. what actions are in the Preferred Alternative).

This list should identify the initial list of actions expected to be pursued, recognizing that the adaptive process may alter this list over time (i.e. where do we start). A phasing plan should be included that shows which actions follow the initial actions, and showing the sequencing of actions over time.

V) Conceptual Models

Reasoning behind selecting the things in Section III above. Should explain the testable hypothesis implicit in the selection of the action, and the dynamics of how the action will affect the resource and move toward the goals.

VI) Adaptive Management

Identification of what will be used to adaptively manage the Component. Generally answers the questions:

A How do we know we are on the right track?

B How do we know we are making progress?

C When do we switch to another track?

D How do we know if and when we are done?

Includes what needs to be monitored, what specific measurable items will be used to measure progress toward goals, provisions for peer review, what parameters should be used to prioritize actions in the future, what research and/or model development on any of these items needs to be done to enable hypothesis testing.

As noted above, the institutional process and funding issues are expected to be covered in the overall Program section, but any special considerations that are relevant to each component should be identified here and submitted for inclusion in the overall Program section.

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